## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 IO-13 DHA-02 /075 W

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R 111325Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2066

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USUN NEW YORK 516

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CSCE, SHUM, CZ

SUBJECT: FOREIGN IMPLICATIONS OF CHARTER 77 - A FOLLOW-UP

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1. AT NATO AMBASSADORS LUNCHEON FEBRUARY 9 THE STATE OF PLAY ON HIGH-LEVEL VISITS WAS INDICATED TO BE AS FOLLOWS:

A) DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL NOTIFIED THE CZECH AMBASSADOR THAT HE STILL PLANS TO VISIT CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN LATE FEBRUARY PROVIDED HUMAN RIGHTS AND CSCE ARE ON THE AGENDA.

- B) VISIT OF NORWEGIAN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY GJERDE IS STILL ON, IN SPITE OF STATEMENT REPORTED IN OSLO 0505 THAT IT HAD BEEN OFFICIALLY CANCELLED, BUT THE NORWEGIAN CHARGE DOES NOT BELIEVE IT WILL ACTUALLY TAKE PLACE.
- C) BONN PLANS TO SEND MFA PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY FRAU HAMM-BRUECHER AS SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE AT FORMAL OPENING OF NEW FRG EMBASSY CHANCERY/RESIDENCE, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE SOON. FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK HAS VERY RECENTLY DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE PERSONALLY IN CEREMONY.
- D) CSSR MINISTER OF GENERAL ENGINEERING PAVEL BAHYL IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT LONDON IN FEW WEEKS HENCE.
- 2. COMMENT: ALL OF OUR NATO COLLEAGUES AGREE WITH EMBASSY VIEW THAT CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY-STATE LEADERSHIP--FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK, IN PARTICULAR--IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO PURSUE A BUSINESS-AS-USUAL COURSE WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD IN HOPES OF MINIMIZING DAMAGE THAT THE CHARTER 77 ISSUE HAS INDLICTED ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S EXTERNAL IMAGE. CHNOUPEK, THE PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT OF THE POST-1968 REGIME'S EFFORTS TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL RESPECTABILITY, APPEARS DETERMINED TO GO AHEAD, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, WITH HIGH-LEVEL VISITS LIKE THOSE MENTIONED AT NATO AMBASSADORS' LUNCHEON. IF CANCELLATIONS ARE DEEMED ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, CHNOUPEK SEEMS TO WANT TO MAKE THAT DECISION ONLY AT THE LAST MINUTE. THUS, THE VISIT OF DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER SPACIL TO SWEDEN, SLATED TO COMMENCE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, IS STILL ON THE SCHEDULE AS FAR AS THE GOC IS CONCERNED, WHILE THE GOC HAS NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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YET COMMITTED ITSELF ON THE VISIT TO AUSTRIA OF PRIME MINISTER STROUGAL, WHICH THE AUSTRIANS HAD EARLIER SUGGESTED MIGHT TAKE PLACE IN EARLY MARCH. GIVEN THE SHARP CRITICISM IN BOTH STOCKHOLM AND VIENNA OVER THE HUSAK REGIME'S HANDLING OF THE CHARTER 77 GROUP, HOWEVER, EITHER VISIT MAY YET BE POSTPONED DEPENDING ON THE TWISTS AND TURNS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS STRUGGLE HERE.

**BYRNE** 

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